

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/735,674

Examiner

Hal I. Kaplan

Applicant(s)

NGUYEN ET AL.

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's amendments dated January 7, 2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21 and 27-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings were received on December 22, 2006. These drawings are accepted.

Terminal Disclaimer

2. The terminal disclaimer filed on January 7, 2008 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of prior U.S. Patent No. 7,116,011 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-21 and 27-30 allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-14 are allowed because, as indicated in the Notice of Allowability dated May 18, 2006 in the parent Application No. 10/331,944 (U.S. Patent No. 7,116,011), none of the prior art of record discloses or suggests a controller circuit to selectively switch the power output stage into a current ramp down mode based on detection of a voltage surge at the output node, and a processor coupled to the output node and a surge notification input of the power output stage, the power output stage to accelerate the current ramp down rate based on a notification signal from the processor, in combination with the remaining claimed features.

Claims 15-21 are allowed because, as indicated in the Notice of Allowability

dated May 18, 2006 in the parent Application No. 10/331,944 (U.S. Patent No. 7,116,011), none of the prior art of record discloses or suggests a controller circuit to selectively switch the power output stage into a current ramp down mode based on a voltage surge at the output node, the power output stage to accelerate the current ramp down rate based on a notification signal from the processor, in combination with the remaining claimed features.

Claims 27-30 are allowed because, as indicated in the Notice of Allowability dated May 18, 2006 in the parent Application No. 10/331,944 (U.S. Patent No. 7,116,011), none of the prior art of record discloses or suggests a transient adjustment circuit to reduce an effective inductance of the ramp down current path in response to a surge notification signal from the processor, the notification signal to correspond to a gating off of unused portions of the processor, in combination with the remaining claimed features.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed January 7, 2008, with respect to the objections to the specification and drawings have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections have been withdrawn.

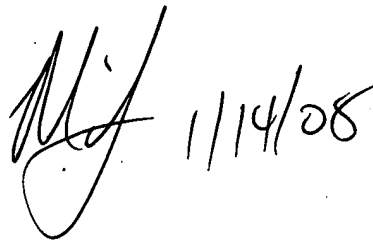
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hal I. Kaplan whose telephone number is 571-272-8587. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on 571-272-2084. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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